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.. ASBESTOS ..

A MONTHLY MARKET JOURNAL DEVOTED TO THE
INTERESTS OF THE ASBESTOS AND MAGNESIA INDUSTRIES

A. S. ROSSITER, EDITOR

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16th FLOOR INQUIRER BUILDING

PHILADELPHIA, PENNSYLVANIA

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October 1934

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ASBESTOS

Asbestos Protects Petroleum from Storage Losses

By R. G. SKERRETT

From our oil pools the country over we draw annually about 800,000,000 barrels of petroleum; and from this crude oil, by various processes we obtain derivatives with which most of us are familiar. Much of the crude oil is held in storage at one point or another to be run thru the refineries, and the derivatives are also held in storage awaiting market demands or the immediate requirements of the ultimate consumer. In the parlance of the petroleum man, storage is either what is known as "standing" or "working."

In standing storage, the tank is usually filled to capacity and held so for a considerable period; while in the case of working storage, the tank is alternately filled and drained frequently. No matter what may be the classification of the storage, and whether the commodity be crude petroleum or any form of petroleum derivative, all of them are likely to give off inflammable vapors while in storage if exposed to heat either from the direct rays of the sun or from seasonal warmth. The



What happens to an oil storage tank when a spark ignites escaping gases.

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vapors, when mixed with air, may be ignited by lightning, by a bare flame, or the glowing tip of a cigar, cigarette, or any kindred burning body. And whether or not the oil, gasoline, etc., catches fire, still evaporation alone may entail a tremendous wastage in a comparatively short while—the loss being largely proportional to the area of the free surface of the fluid in contact with the atmosphere. Therefore, engineers and inventors have devised divers means for reducing fire hazards and for cutting down evaporation losses.

A few years back, the technicist of the U. S. Bureau of Mines computed that one-thirtieth of the total annual production of gasoline was lost every year thru evaporation, and that particular loss referred to the gasoline escaping from the petroleum while that oil was in tanks preparatory to being transported by pipe lines to refineries. Again, the general loss in industry, during tank storage, is placed at about \$165,000,000 every twelvemonth. Manifestly, very substantial savings could be made by the industry if all petroleum and its derivatives could be isolated from the atmosphere while in storage. The more difficult problem is that presented by working storage, in which a tank is frequently filled and emptied, and air successively drawn into a tank or expelled from it as the oil is withdrawn or pumped into the containers, each of which may have a capacity of many tens of thousands of barrels.

An ingenious solution of the problem was devised about a decade ago by John H. Wiggins, while associated with the United States Bureau of Mines. His invention has since undergone considerable development, but it remains in principle as he first conceived it. That is to say, he adopted a type of roof that would float on the surface of the oil and rise and fall as the level of the fluid changed with the filling or the discharging of a tank. His floating roof, for such it is, is of two broad kinds: The dishpan type having an upturned rim around the outer edge of the great steel disk, and being, in fact, a very large open circular vessel, while the other type consists of an annular pon-

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toon, subdivided into a number of separate compartments, with the spacious central area covered by a depressed deck that, with the pontoon, rests directly on the oil. For operative reasons, these floating roofs are of lesser diameter than the inside diameter of the associate tank, and the difference is usually such that the roof when in position leaves an area 8 inches wide between the roof and the adjacent tank wall at any point. While this area, compared with the very much larger area blanketed by the floating roof, is not extensive, still it is ample enough to permit costly evaporation if exposed to the free air and to the insatiable thirst of breezes and winds. The inventor had to plan some form of seal that would effectually enclose this encircling surface 8 inches wide and, at the same time, do this whether the roof were rising as the tank was filled or descending as the tank was pumped out. The answer was a flexible and adaptable form of seal.

The inner surfaces of the big containers at a tank farm are not smooth, especially if bound together with rivets. The rivet heads and the seams where the plates meet present surface inequalities, and the seal provided for a floating roof must slide over these irregularities easily either when the roof floats upward or descends. The desired action in this particular is obtained by a series of pendant "shoes" that are supported by the floating roof thru suitable mechanisms arranged all around the edge of the floating roof — the shoes being pressed against the enveloping surface of the tank by a corresponding number of rods actuated by springs. The springs yield and react to the surface irregularities of the tank. Each shoe is 2 feet or 3 feet wide, and from 40 inches to 50 inches long, and made of steel plate about 1/8-inch thick. Both at the top and the bottom, the shoe is bent slightly backward toward the deck, and each shoe has a vertical sliding contact with the tank surface of from 30 inches to 40 inches, depending upon the length of the shoe. The lower end of each shoe is held continually a number of inches below the surface of the petroleum or the derivative in the tank. The only remaining gap by which air could touch the surface of the liquid or bubbles of gas escape from the stored commodity would be by way of the opening between the rim

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of the roof and the tops of the shoes. Inasmuch as the shoes move and the rim of the roof is rigid, the seal between the two must be a flexible one and also one that will be durable when exposed to the more or less corrosive gases emitted by some kinds of crude oil. The material for this pliant seal, as now used, is the outcome of successive improvements, and is immediately the result of efforts to combat the destructive action of sour crude petroleum from the western oil fields of Texas.

Almost from the first, asbestos cloth was used as the basis for the sealing material, reinforced with wire to give the desired measure of durability and surfaced on the outside with a white rubber compound. The material was next improved by coating the wire-inserted asbestos with a rubber compound on the outside and surfacing it on the underside with a coating of elastic varnish to produce a vapor-tight material. Still better results were obtained by coating the wire-inserted asbestos on both sides with a gray or white rubber compound containing ingredients that would increase the resistance of the seal to the action of sunlight, the weather, and the corrosive vapors of the sour crude petroleum. In its final form, the heavy flexible asbestos fabric is impregnated on each surface with Thickol, that astonishingly adaptable synthetic product that has many of the admirable physical properties of rubber. Oil-tank seals made in this fashion for the floating roofs of working tanks have been in service for a number of years and have proved quite satisfactory. Thus we see asbestos in one more field of conservation—helping

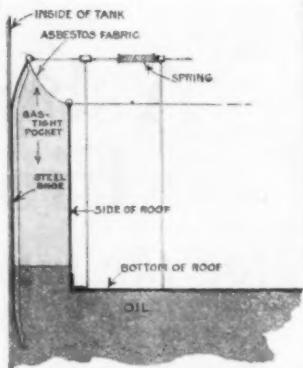


Diagram of one form of floating roof for oil tanks, showing the asbestos fabric seal between the floating roof and the enveloping wall of the tank.

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Johns-Manville carries on the entire process of manufacturing asbestos. Mines in Arizona and Canada, thirteen factories located strategically across the continent and branch offices in all large cities assure prompt and efficient service.

In a hundred ways Johns-Manville products contribute to the comfort of modern life and to the efficiency of industrial establishments. Packings, high temperature insulations, refractory cements, low pressure insulations, asbestos roofings, brake linings and industrial friction materials, flooring and acoustical treatment form some of the major items manufactured by Johns-Manville.

Through constant research in the J-M Laboratories, scores of other items have been developed, important to the economic and physical welfare of people throughout the country.

Johns-Manville

EXECUTIVE OFFICES : NEW YORK

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not only to reduce fire hazards but to lesson evaporation losses that insidiously rob the oil industry of enormous sums annually.

Emergency Uses of Asbestos

While it is to be deplored that asbestos in some form or other is often used to "patch up" some machine or apparatus where a new part would be much more effective, economical and safe, at the same time we cannot help but admire the ingenuity displayed by some people in an emergency, and when it comes down to brass tacks, possibly fifty percent of the larger uses of asbestos materials could be traced to such emergencies if we had sufficient patience to trace them.

For instance one man tells us that the cooling system in his automobile which he admits was not a new or modern model, became troublesome during the hot summer weather and that he did not have the time to have a new one installed just at that moment. So he bought some asbestos paper (at least we assume it was asbestos paper as he says he paid but a few cents for it) wrapped it around the manifold, gas line and intake and found that the heat was so appreciably reduced that the car acted as well as tho a new system had been installed.

This made him think that if asbestos paper could keep the cooling system of the car cool, it might help in keeping the driver cool also, so he laid a piece of it under the floor mat of his car and found the heat condition much improved. He tried out the same idea by placing a piece in his shoes to keep the heat from hot pavements away from his feet and found it very effective, while a piece in his hat served the same purpose for his head.

We are just wondering if there is anything in these suggestions which might lead to a profitable, new use of asbestos, particularly the floor mat idea.

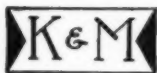
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MARKET CONDITIONS

General Business.

General business appears to be somewhat improved. "Trade reports" says the National City Bank letter for October "have been better during September, and those who have been hoping for a moderate pick-up in industrial activity during the fall are encouraged accordingly." And again "On the whole the business situation is as good as business men generally expected."

Asbestos. Raw Material.

The Canadian Mines are quoting prices for 1935. There has been an increase of \$50.00 a ton on No. 1 Thetford Crude. Other quotations on various grades are about the same as for 1934. No further change is indicated. The Canadian Mines are convinced that price cutting in the past merely resulted in selling the same tonnage for a smaller income. Lower prices brought no additional business.

Russia has exported more asbestos for the first six months of this year than at any previous time in their history. Due to the difficulty of Germany obtaining "valuta" (foreign exchange) the German Government is indirectly forcing German buyers to purchase Russian Asbestos inasmuch as Russia is a very large buyer of German goods. Russia will therefore continue to enjoy the major share of German business, more than she has for many years past. This, no doubt will decrease the sales by the Canadian Mines to Germany and Central Europe.

The result of all this will simply be a curtailment on the part of all mines unable to sell their material at their established prices—a sound policy.

Asbestos. Manufactured.

Textiles. This market shows little change in volume with no immediate indication of increase. Prices are quite firm.

Insulation. High Pressure. Demand has temporarily slackened, due, probably, to reduced steel and other heavy industry activity. Prices remain firm in all types and

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Arizona Crude

Canadian Crude

Canadian Spinning Fibre

Canadian Shingle Fibre

Cyprus Asbestos

Italian Crude

Russian Crude

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South African Blue Crude

South African Yellow Crude



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kinds of high pressure insulations.

Insulation. Low Pressure. Seasonal pickup in this line as well as in the Paper and Millboard field has been fair, in fact heavier than was generally anticipated. Prices are firm.

Asbestos Cement Products. Asbestos Cement Shingle sales have continued to run substantially ahead of last year's volume with somewhat abnormal amount of sales during the past few weeks due to buyers stocking up at old prices prior to the effective date of a slight increase in the general market. Siding shingles continue to lead in the general asbestos shingle advance and the development of the use of Asbestos Cement Shingles for siding purposes has been one of the most remarkable accomplishments in the history of the Asbestos Shingle Industry. The siding field is only being scratched, however, at the present time and it is felt that a much larger volume of asbestos cement siding shingles will be sold during the next few years.

Sales of other asbestos cement products such as flat sheets, wallboard and corrugated sheets all reflect the general improvement that has been noticeable in business this year over last.

English Market Conditions.

The Asbestos Industry in England can be said to be making slow but sure progress towards recovery. Notwithstanding European bickerings, the restriction of imports into Germany, owing to currency problems, and similar troubles, British trade generally continues on the upward trend and the asbestos industry is taking its share of it. In no particular sphere—save perhaps the motor industry—can recovery be said to be rapid; but one after another, the staple industries are gaining ground. Railway goods traffics,—a sure index to a country's commercial activity—are on an upward scale; shipping construction is distinctly less sluggish than it was a few months ago, and the general engineering trades present the same feature.

Another barometer of trade—the Stock Exchange—reflects the conditions, the shares of Turner & Newall, the leading asbestos manufacturers in the country, having advanced during the past few weeks from 45/—to 52/6 and

A S B E S T O S

Cape Asbestos shares are now 52/6d. Preferred, and 34/— Ordinary.

The above comments are made by men closely in touch with the various markets. Opinions from those in position to know asbestos market trends are always welcome.

ASBESTOS STOCK QUOTATIONS

	Par.	Div.	September 1934		
			Low	High	Last
Asbestos Corpn. (Com) New V. T.	np	—	5	6	5
Carey (Com.)	100	—	No Sales		
Carey (Pfd.)	100	6	31	31	31
Certainteed (Pfd.)	100	7	23	32	30
Certainteed (Com.)	np	—	4¼	6	5
Garlock Packing (Com.)	np	—	18	21	21
Johns-Manville (Com.)	np	—	40¼	48½	47¼
Johns-Manville (Pfd.)	100	7	111	118	118
Raybestos-Manhattan (Com.)	np	60c	16½	18¾	17½
Ruberoid (Com.)	np	1	27½	27½	27½
Thermoid (Com.)	np	—	3	3½	3½
Thermoid (Pfd.)	100	7	No Sales		

Asbestos Safety Curtains on Ships

The Morro Castle disaster calls attention to the fact that final tests¹ are now in progress at the big asbestos research laboratory at Slough, England, of Bell's Asbestos & Engineering Supplies, Ltd., on a device which may revolutionize fire protection at sea.

The invention is for surrounding the site of an outbreak with a ring of asbestos curtains which would completely isolate the source of fire and eliminate any possibility of its spreading.

These curtains which have been in the experimental stage for a considerable time, would be hung in fireproof asbestos boxes fixed to the roof of a ship's passages and stairways. On an alarm being given, the curtains in the affected area would be instantaneously let down like window blinds, thus completely stopping the further progress of the conflagration. The experiments have proved highly successful and it seems likely that in a short time the curtains will be given a practical test at sea. It is hoped that they will be installed on the Cunard White Star liner "534", which is to be launched at the end of September.

¹See also June 1934 "ASBESTOS", page 31.

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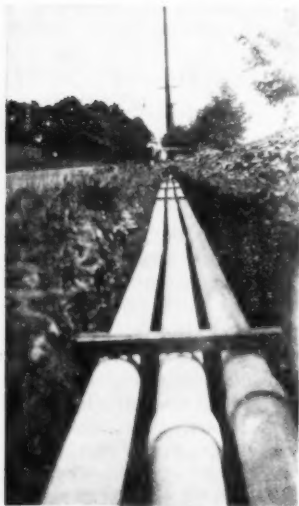
Asbestos Cement Conduit

(A New Product in the Asbestos Cement Field)

Recent announcement by Johns-Manville of a new "Transite" Electrical Conduit has been followed by a swift acceptance of this industrial newcomer by the electrical industry in many widely separated parts of the United States.

The Company reports that even prior to the time the new Conduit was placed on the market, some 250,000 feet of it had been bought or specified outright by the electrical industry, and that since the announcement of the product was made last May, its progress in the electrical conduit field has been most gratifying.

Perhaps the outstanding reason for this ready ac-



*Asbestos Cement Conduit
being installed in trench
without concrete protec-
tive envelope.*

ceptance is the fact that this Conduit is sufficiently sturdy and possesses soil resistant qualities which enable the laying of it in trenches **without** any concrete protective envelope.

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— A S B E S T O S —

Coupled with this ability to give service without protection is the fact that, while the Conduit itself, is new the material of which it is made — Transite (which is the Johns-Manville trade name for its Asbestos Cement Products) is already a widely used product.

Millions of feet of this waterproof, corrosion-resistant, fireproof material have been provided in the past for use as roofing siding of buildings; for vents, flues and stacks; for switch cells, barriers and ducts by the electrical industry; for boiler and furnace casings; and, since 1929, in pipe form (under patents used in Europe for nearly 20 years) for installation as underground water mains, process-liquor lines, flue and vent pipes and stacks.

The asbestos and portland cement used in manufacturing Transite Conduit are combined under pressure by a method which permits accurate control of the distribution of ingredients, wall thickness and density, thus insuring uniformity. In manufacture, the conduit is built up on a polished steel mandrel which imparts a very smooth interior surface.

Compared to concrete, Transite Electrical Conduit has four times the tensile strength and twice the compressive strength. It is fireproof, highly resistant to external and internal corrosion, electrolysis and the action of many chemicals. Ground containing a high percentage of acid or alkali will not destroy it and the ingredients which enter into its make-up are 100 per cent incombustible. Its workability is such that it can be readily cut and tooled on the job.

The Harrington (Tapered Sleeve) Coupling is recommended for use with this Conduit, this type coupling providing a tight, rigid, secure connection between lengths of conduit and also permits slight flexibility in laying the conduit to a curve, dodging obstructions or accommodating an irregularly-cut ditch. Two other types of couplings are also furnished as standard.

Six miles of this Electrical Conduit were installed by the American Gas & Electric Company at Atlantic City several months before official announcement of the product was made. Practically all of this was laid beneath

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city streets, without a concrete protective envelope, in soil which is highly corrosive because of soil acids produced by a large amount of decaying vegetation.

The material has also been used by the Pennsylvania Railroad in carrying out extensive improvements which are being made at Newark, N. J., to provide additional rail and station facilities for handling rapid transit service, as well as thru and suburban operation in this Metropolitan area — all under electric operation.

Among numerous other installations the Conduit is being used to carry electric cables for bridge lighting on the new Golden Gate and San Francisco-Oakland Bay bridges; it was installed underground without protection for a new Fresno, Calif., fire alarm system and a similar installation was made for municipal lighting by the Northern States Power Company at Minneapolis, Minn.

These few installations give some idea of the many places in which Asbestos Cement Electrical Conduit can be advantageously used.

Asbestos Covered Fixture Wire

BY H. C. CHARLES

Temperature plays havoc with a good many elements of service in industrial institutions, commercial establishments and public buildings.

One of the important elements of service consists of the distribution wiring for electric service. The small copper strands must conduct the electric energy to the various consuming units in the most efficient manner possible, coupled with maximum economy in first cost as well as maintenance. These conductors are not only subject to the temperature conditions of the surrounding atmosphere but the temperature of transmission as well. It is not uncommon to find that the temperature around the wires is as high as 180 degrees F.

Rubber insulation will not stand temperatures of this order. A temperature of 150 degs. F. continually will usually shorten the life of rubber insulated wires very materially while temperatures of around 180 degs. F. are

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looked upon as being outside the realm of rubber insulated wires and a special insulating treatment is generally resorted to.

Not every engineer or electrical construction man will think seriously of the necessity of proper ventilation of the wires. They are pulled into airtight and sometimes well insulated conduits, boxes, and fittings. The lines are gradually loaded to the limit with the result that much higher temperatures prevail along the wires than should be the case. It is remarkable that more trouble is not encountered from this fault than really comes to light.

Not long ago the writer observed three number 4 gauge wires pulled from a conduit. All that came out of that conduit was the bare copper. The insulation, or what had once been insulation, remained in the conduit. This was due to temperatures within the conduit running too high. The rubber insulation gradually hardened and this was followed by complete combustion of the insulation. The wires shortened between phases after a while and then the electrician discovered the trouble, but too late. The damage had been done; the distribution line was completely lost.

It is common practice to use fixture wire when connecting the lamp sockets to the line. This is done to avoid trouble from broken wires, frayed insulation within the socket of the lamps and within the outlet boxes due to the lamps swinging slightly when pendant from the ceiling. Many failures are due to this condition where solid copper wire has been used and the wire insulated in the usual way with rubber and braid. The use of stranded fixture-wire at these points eliminates some of the trouble; however, unless this wire is insulated with heat resistant material shorts will ultimately occur. The simplest and most effective cure for this condition is the use of asbestos covered fixture wire.

Asbestos covered fixture wire can be obtained in sizes AWG 18, 16 and 14, made up stranded using 30 gauge copper wire of 16, 26 and 41 strands respectively. The National Electric Code gives 6 amp. rating for 16 wire and 20 amp. carrying capacity for the 14 gauge wire. These

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figures are somewhat higher than for rubber insulation. This feature alone makes it economical to use asbestos covered fixture wire.

The wire is made with asbestos wrapped around the wire which is then incorporated in the outer braid. Pendant fixtures without conduit are not generally used in industrial plants, the conduit pendant type being preferred. The duplex fixture cord is still used for other purposes and it is advisable to carry some of this wire in asbestos insulation type on hand to avoid the use of rubber covered in a "pinch." For conduit drop fixtures the plain, single conductor, asbestos covered wire is preferred. This asbestos covered wire will not dry out, become brittle or hard.

Care must be used in pulling the wire into the conduit and in the preparation of the conduit. Every conduit end must be reamed and the inside of the conduit must be inspected to see that it has a good covering of baked enamel to avoid damage to the covering of the wire.

The Asbestos Umbrella

There has been so much mention in the newspapers of the asbestos umbrella as used by European fire departments, that we asked some of the manufacturers of asbestos cloth to give us their opinion on the potential use of this protective device by United States Fire Fighting departments.

While the asbestos umbrella may offer slightly greater protection to the fire fighter than the helmet with asbestos cape, it would seem that the inconvenience in holding the umbrella would far outweigh the slight increase in protection.

The fire fighter needs two hands, (and often three or four would be an advantage) with which to handle a hose or an axe, and we are very much afraid that the first move would be to throw away the protective umbrella, altho of course the umbrella might be fastened to his suit and

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suited for the manufacture of
the better types of:

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raised or lowered at will, thus being out of the way (tho not protecting him) when using the hose or axe.

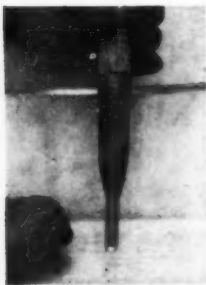
One manufacturer suggests that perhaps only the Chief is to use the umbrella.

There is also rather grave question whether the cost of an asbestos umbrella could be made sufficiently low to have it included in fire fighting equipment.

On the other hand it is agreed that the asbestos suit is most valuable in the fighting of fire, either in the oil fields where it was first used to great advantage, or in the entering of burning buildings in cities or towns, and this use of asbestos suits could be profitably pushed by all textile manufacturers.

Handy Methods for the Pipe Coverer

1. *End of Old Hoe Makes Handy Pike for Loosening and Removing Old Asbestos Covering.* Boiler and other insulation breaks off readily when it is removed after a period of service, but often it is hurriedly removed to allow inspection, and the part of the boiler being cleaned for the installation of new insulation is not cleaned as thoroly as might be. A neat, handy tool to remove this old boiler cement which is easy to work from some distance from one location is shown in the photograph.



The blade is removed from a discarded hoe; the neck is straightened and ground on the emery wheel to a blunt point. This is easily and readily pushed under the soft asbestos, wedging and raising it to a point of breakage where it drops from the surface.

This simple, homemade tool is just light enough, and just heavy enough, to do the work and areas can be quickly and easily cleaned with much less shifting and moving of benches and ladders.

ASBESTOS

2. Fireproof Light Reflector.

Many homemade light reflectors are often flimsy, dangerous devices and potent fire risks. Statistics show that many costly blazes are traceable to pieces of cardboard and other inflammable material hastily tied to or around a light globe.

The photo shows a homemade reflector made from a common, inexpensive asbestos stove mat. A hole was cut thru the mat just large enough to let the mat slip snugly down over the tapered portion of the bulb. The white mat throws most of the light downwards. It is absolutely fireproof, easy to put on and to remove; easy to replace if it gets broken and not so hard on the connection as a heavy metal reflector.



3. Hose End Holder for Mixing Box.

The end of the water hose is a mean thing to keep handy and convenient around the average mixing box.



In the photo an old auto seat spring is used for this purpose. The top and bottom coils were bent around until they were close together and were then tacked to the edge of the box where the hose was conveniently placed and where the device was not in the way of the mixing hoes.

It will be seen that it holds the water hose end neatly and nicely in place, tho it can be easily and instantly withdrawn. When not in use the coils are simply turned down so that they will not stick up over the top of the box.

It is not in the way at any time and saves a lot of bother with the hose end. The weight of the hose end holds it in place in the interior of the box at all times.

Editor's Note: One man wrote us that he believed these "handy methods" were worthwhile. We would be glad to receive comments, especially after the methods have been tried out.

ASBESTOS

CONTRACTORS AND DISTRIBUTORS PAGE

INSULATION CONTRACTORS' DIVISIONAL CODE AUTHORITY, INC.

The Insulation Contractors' Divisional Code Authority, Inc., reports the following progress to date:

The Code Authority Certificate of Incorporation, By-Laws, Budget and Basis of Assessment of members of the Industry have all been approved by the National Recovery Administration.

The basis of assessment of members of the industry consists of a registration fee of 1% of the total amount of all insulation contracts over \$100 accepted on and after August 1st, 1934.

The Code Authority is proceeding as rapidly as possible with the organization of its Agencies in various territories thruout the United States, the organization of such Agencies including the appointment of the personnel of the Agency, the approval of Bid Depositories and the establishment of approved Survey Bureaus where deemed advisable.

The Government printed copies of the Insulation Contractors' Chapter of the Construction Code contained an error which has been corrected by the issuance of an Errata Sheet. This Errata Sheet reads as follows:

"Page 11, Rule 13, Line 5, delete 'correct qualities or quantities furnished' and substitute 'correct quantities or quantities furnished.'"

The copies of the Chapter printed by the Construction League, however, did not contain this error.

"Handy Methods for the Pipe Coverer," page 22, are of interest to the Insulation Contractor—or at least we hope they will be to your shop.

Recent publication of wage rates by the Architectural Record, gives the Louisville rate for Asbestos Workers, as \$1.00 as of July 15th. Former rate was \$1.12½.

ASBESTOS

BUILDING

The volume of construction contracts placed during August was slightly higher than that reported for July and 13 per cent greater than the total shown for August, 1933, according F. W. Dodge Corporation. Out of the August 1934 volume of \$120,244,500 a total of \$51,046,800 was reported for non-residential building types; \$41,905,900 for public works; \$18,641,000 for residential buildings; and \$8,650,800 for public utilities. The August totals for non-residential building and public works classifications were larger than in August, 1933, while for residential building and public utilities the respective totals were smaller than a year ago. For both residential and non-residential building the August totals were smaller than those reported for July. Commenting on the situation in residential building the Dodge bulletin says:

"The decrease in residential building awards from August, 1933, marks the fourth month of consecutive losses from a year ago, declines from last year starting with the record for May, 1934.

"For the first eight months of 1934 residential contracts awarded in the 37 Eastern States totaled \$170,233,500 as against \$158,672,100 for the corresponding period of 1933. Altho this indicates a gain of something more than 6 per cent, of greater immediate significance is the fact that for the month of August of this year the residential total was 15 per cent behind the volume of August 1933. On this showing it is dubious whether the residential total for all of 1934 can materially exceed the total for 1933 or that it can attain the volume of 280 million dollars reported for the 37 Eastern States for 1932. Contracts for residential building for the first eight months of the current year are running behind 1933 totals in the following major geographic areas! New England, Upstate New York, Pittsburgh, Central Northwest, St. Louis and Kansas City."

John H. Fahey, Chairman of the Federal Home Loan Bank Board, in a recent issue of the Architectural Record, predicts a widespread revival in private home construction early next year, as a result of government credit-easing machinery, the need for new housing, and the necessity for

ASBESTOS

placing unproductive capital in profitable channels.

Copy of Mr. Fahey's statement will be lent to anyone interested, or can no doubt be obtained by addressing The Architectural Record at 119 W. 40th St., New York City.

FEDERAL HOUSING FACTS

The Federal Housing Administration finds, in a study of 718 modernization and repair loans among several thousand officially reported to the Federal Housing Administration, that

265 or 14.53% were heating jobs

169 or 9.27% were roofing jobs

155 or 8.50% were general remodelling jobs

36 or 1.97% were kitchen remodelling jobs.

and so on. This gives an idea of the extent to which insulation, roofing, wallboard, etc., may be expected to benefit from the federal housing project. Ninety-five per cent of the loans were made for home improvements and five per cent for improvements of business property.

Descriptive literature put out by the Federal Housing Administration, New Post Office Building, 12th and Pennsylvania Avenue, Washington, D. C., free of charge to those interested is as follows: (Order by number and name)

FHE—8 Information Leaflet (Folder)

FHA—101 Property Owners Booklet

FHA—102 Community Campaign Booklet.

FHA—103 Builders Booklet

FHA—104 Manufacturers Booklet

FHA—106 Community Planning Booklet

FHA—107 National Housing Act (Text)

FHA—108 Equipment Permitted or Excluded

In describing the fire ruined ship "Morro Castle"—the fire disaster that shocked the world—one writer says "Asbestos, defiant of flame, was hanging in tatters from ventilator pipes."

Hair Felt — "Black Sheep" Wool Felt

Cold Insulation — Refr. Car Insulation

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ASBESTOS

Work of the A. S. T. M.

(As It Applies to Asbestos Textiles)

The American Society for Testing Materials recently elected officers of standing committees, such committee officers being elected in the even years.

Committee D-13 on Textile Materials, which was organized in 1914, and has a present membership of 154, covers the Asbestos Textile field along with other textiles. All Officers of this Committee were re-elected and will serve a two year term, 1934-1936. They are:

Chairman: H. J. Ball, Professor of Textile Engineering, Lowell Textile Institute.

Vice Chairmen: B. H. Foster, Manager, Textile Section, United States Rubber Co.; J. M. Weaver, Sales Engineer, General Asbestos & Rubber Division of Raybestos-Manhattan, Inc.

Secretary: W. H. Whitcomb.

Along with work on other textiles, studies on the electrical resistivity of asbestos tapes will be started by Committee D-13.

High-Grade Asbestos Textiles

CARDED FIBRES

YARNS, CORD, MANTLE YARNS

PLAIN AND METALLIC CLOTHS

BRAIDED AND WOVEN TAPES

BRAIDED TUBINGS

WOVEN SHEET PACKINGS

WOVEN BRAKE LININGS

GLOVES, MITTENS, LEGGINS

GASKETS, SEAMLESS AND JOINTED

PACKINGS, STEM AND HIGH PRESSURE

WICK AND ROPE

ASBESTOS FIBRE SPINNING COMPANY

NORTH WALES, — PENNA.

ASBESTOS

BRAKE LINES

The Brake Lining Manufacturers' Association held its Annual Meeting on Monday, September 18th, and elected the following officers for the coming year:

W. C. Dodge, Jr., of Keasbey & Mattison Co., President and member of the Executive Committee.

A. B. Kempel of Rex-Hide, Inc., First Vice President and member of the Executive Committee.

H. A. Gillies, of the American Brakeblok Corporation, Second Vice President and member of the Executive Committee.

D. R. Weedon of Keasbey & Mattison Co., Treasurer and member of the Executive Committee.

W. J. Littlefield, Secretary.

M. F. Judd of Raybestos-Manhattan, Inc., T. L. Gatke of Gatke Corporation, J. C. Johnston of Atlas Asbestos Corporation and G. M. Williams of Russell Manufacturing Company as additional members of the Executive Committee.

A meeting of the Brake Lining Industry was held concurrently with the Association meeting and elected its Code Authority members, retaining in office the men who have administered the Code for the past year. A list of Code Authority members in all Divisions of the Asbestos Industry will be published in a later issue, some of the Divisions not having as yet held their elections.

AUTOMOBILE PRODUCTION

Automobile production in the United States and Canada for the month of August 1934 was 244,713, compared with 277,690 for July, and 238,934 in August 1933.

Total production for the eight elapsed months of 1934 (January to August inclusive) totalled 2,318,826 compared with 1,503,207 for the same period in 1933.

ASBESTOS

Little Lessons in Selling

YOUR RATING FOR TEAMWORK

By JOHN T. BARTLETT

"It was the teamwork of my men which won the contest for us," related a sales manager. "A sales organization which is pulling together will have totals at least 20% better than it would have otherwise.

"We protect our salesmen within carefully established territories, just as other concerns do, but we expect a salesman unable to put across a deal himself to offer another member of the organization the opportunity to convince that prospect. There is a right way and a wrong way, of course. A salesman playing lone wolf will wait until he not only has lost the sale, but has destroyed all opportunity for another man to make it. The real co-operator, on the other hand, will not wait until he has completely ruined the situation. He will realize the chances are heavily against success; he will decide in his own mind what salesman could most likely put it over, and he will promptly give the lead to that salesman."

There are wonderful opportunities for the loyal, co-operating salesman to give friendly tips and suggestions to other salesmen. If there is one quality which salesmen have in far higher degree than most human beings, it is the ability to sense and detect mental conditions in others. Jim knows when his brother salesman Bob, is disorganized and ineffective; often observation will determine the reason.

Influence discreetly exercised has put many a good salesman temporarily out of his stride, back in the running.

One salesman learns things about effective argument in answer to difficult objections. He should not keep them to himself but pass them on to other members of the force.

This sort of bread cast on the waters always returns. Be a salesman famous for your teamwork.



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PRODUCTION STATISTICS

Africa (Rhodesia)

(Statistics published by Rhodesia Chamber of Mines)

July 1934

Tons Value
(2000 lbs.)

Bulawayo District

Nil Desperandum (Afr. Asb. Mng. Co. Ltd.)	239.90	£ 2,998	15	..
Shabanie (Rho. & Gen. Asb. Corp. Ltd.)	2,283.26	28,540	6	3

Victoria District

Gath's and King (Rho. & Gen. Asb. Corp. Ltd.)	470.78	5,884	13	9
---	--------	-------	----	---

2,993.94 £37,423 15 ..

Production in Rhodesia July 1933 3,652.92 £45,661 10 ..

Africa (Union of South)

(Statistics published by Dept. of Mines & Industries of U. of S. A.)

June 1933

Tons Value
(2000 lbs.)

Transvaal				
Amosite	451.60	£ 4,577	309.35	£ 3,110
Chrysotile	978.00	10,586	745.20	8,649
Cape				
Blue	156.58	3,118	187.99	3,374

1,586.18 £18,281 1,242.54 £15,133

July 1933

July 1934

Tons Value
(2000 lbs.)

Tons Value
(2000 lbs.)

Transvaal				
Amosite	412.60	£ 4,153	427.20	£ 4,295
Chrysotile	773.50	9,299	970.00	11,066
Cape				
Blue	279.22	4,898	199.60	3,681
	1,465.32	£18,350	1,596.80	£19,042

Canada.

(Statistics by Bureau of Mines, Province of Quebec).

August 1933

August 1934

Tons (2000 lbs.)

Tons (2000 lbs.)

Fibre	16,393	15,922
By-Products	181	613

October 1934

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A S B E S T O S



IMPORTS AND EXPORTS



Imports Into U. S. A.

(Figures published by U. S. Dept. of Commerce)

Unmanufactured Asbestos.

	July 1933 Tons (2240 lbs.)	July 1934 Tons (2240 lbs.)
Africa (Br. S.)		368
Canada	11,402	8,438
Cyprus, Malta & Gozo	173	89
Italy	5	1
Soviet Russia .....	..	341
	<hr/> 11,580	<hr/> 9,237

Tabulation of Crudes and Fibres—

Crude (Africa—Br. S.)		368
Crude (Canada)	54	54
Crude (Italy)	4	1
Crude (Soviet Russia) .....	..	341
Mill Fibre (Canada)	4,617	3,137
Lower Grades (Canada)	6,731	5,247
Lower Grades (Cyprus, etc.)	173	89
Lower Grades (Italy)	1	..
	<hr/> 11,580	<hr/> 9,237

Value of Unmanufactured Asbestos,

<i>Imported</i>	\$356,702	\$322,728
-----------------------	-----------	-----------

Manufactured Asbestos Goods:

Austria	25	520
Belgium .....	..	2,026
Germany	1,013	1,530
Spain	155	..
United Kingdom	1,566	3,173
Japan .....	..	36
	<hr/> \$2,759	<hr/> \$7,285

Exports from U. S. A.

Exports of Unmanufactured Asbestos during July 1934 totalled 78 tons, valued at \$4,504; compared with July 1933 in which 129 tons, valued at \$11,402 were exported.

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Exports of Manufactured Asbestos Goods:

	July 1933		July 1934	
	Pounds	Value	Pounds	Value
Paper, Mlbd. and Rlbd.	28,207	\$3,782	98,860	\$6,563
Pipe Covering and Cement ..	193,498	14,419	346,050	20,597
Textiles, Yarn and Packing ..	71,860	37,820	107,634	53,271
Brake and Clutch Lining—				
Molded and Semi-Molded ..		35,769		47,615
Not Molded ¹	132,712	18,158	140,651	20,388
Asbestos Roofing ²	3,899	12,662	2,855	10,909
Magnesia and Mfrs. of	73,690	7,115	200,389	12,898
Other Asbestos Mfrs.	216,516	12,160	230,451	14,785
¹ Lin. Ft. ² Sqs.				

Exports of Raw Asbestos from Canada.

(Figures by Dominion Bureau of Statistics)

	August 1933		August 1934	
	Tons	Value	Tons	Value
	(2000 lbs.)		(2000 lbs.)	
United Kingdom	379	\$ 17,800	301	\$ 16,626
United States	5,858	257,457	3,313	129,805
Australia	60	3,000	46	2,230
Belgium	380	18,448		
France	231	19,655	109	13,194
Germany	296	19,701	240	22,645
Italy	218	13,543	5	2,025
Japan	730	23,696	1,357	51,275
Netherlands	113	3,700		20
Poland			20	700
Spain	77	3,847	22	1,279
Sweden		50		
	8,342	\$380,897	5,413	\$239,799

Sand and Waste—

United Kingdom	60	\$ 1,210	90	\$ 1,980
United States	8,702	112,132	8,297	118,222
Argentina	15	165		
Belgium	120	2,400	30	660
Brazil			5	45
France	60	900		
Germany	220	4,250	66	1,240
Italy	30	413		
Netherlands	66	990		
Poland			30	660
Porto Rico	30	330		
	9,303	\$122,790	8,518	\$122,807
	17,645	\$503,687	13,931	\$362,606

October 1934

ASBESTOS

Imports and Exports from England

Correction: On Page 34 of the September number under Imports and Exports from England (Imports of Raw Materials) tons are given as containing 2000 lbs., and also 2240 lbs. This should be 2000 lbs. Please correct your copy of the September number accordingly. Also these figures (table at the top of the page) should be marked as applying to the months of July 1933 and July 1934. No month or year was given in our September 1934 number.

Imports of Raw Material.

	August 1933		August 1934	
	Tons (2000 lbs.)	Value	Tons (2000 lbs.)	Value
Africa (S. Rhodesia)	846	£16,120	851	£19,751
Africa (Union of South)	713	15,449	642	11,801
Austria	10	75	.....	.....
Canada	163	2,263	572	5,061
Cyprus	198	3,558	95	1,481
Finland .....	.....	.....	6	31
Italy .....	.....	.....	1	61
Netherlands .....	.....	.....	2	61
New Zealand	5	129	.....	.....
Soviet Union (Russia)	262	4,864	22	795
U. S. of America	39	881	4	41
Venezuela	14	80	.....	.....
	2,250	£43,419	2,195	£39,109

Exports of Asbestos Manufactures

	August 1933		August 1934	
	Cwts.	Value	Cwts.	Value
To Irish Free State	4,838	£ 4,468	3,195	£ 2,921
To British India	8,470	9,240	4,016	6,588
To Australia	815	5,879	653	3,061
To Other British Countries	6,153	14,061	9,310	18,655
To Netherlands	750	2,318	735	3,261
To Belgium	416	3,331	1,088	3,135
To France	606	3,099	712	2,532
To Italy	362	3,182	412	3,275
To Other Foreign Countries	6,200	28,870	6,247	24,017
	28,610	£74,448	26,368	£67,445

The struggle for existence is the most interesting part of existence.

ASBESTOS

NEWS OF THE INDUSTRY

Birthdays. Our birthday list this month contains the following names: A. K. Burgstresser, President, Norristown Magnesite & Asbestos Company, Norristown, Pa., whose birthday falls on October 26th; A. L. Wade, President Asbestos Insulations, Reg'd, Montreal, P. Q., Canada, October 28th; George L. Abbott, President and General Manager, Garlock Packing Company, Palmyra, N. Y., October 31st; G. M. Righter, Export Manager and Eastern Sales Manager, United States Asbestos Division of Raybestos-Manhattan, Inc., New York City, N. Y., November 10th; R. B. Crabbs, Vice President, Philip Carey Co., Lockland, Cincinnati, O., November 11th; H. Parkinson, Head of Asbestos Division, George MacLellan & Co., Ltd., Maryhill, Glasgow, Scotland, November 13th; to all of which gentlemen we extend congratulations and best wishes.

"Handling Asbestos" is the title of an article which appears in the September issue of the Canadian Mining Journal; it particularly features a new type of electric shovel, used successfully by Johnson's Company asbestos mine at Thetford.

Captain James Gordon Ross. An excellent photograph and short biographical sketch of Captain James Gordon Ross, Manager of Asbestos Corporation, Limited of Thetford, appears in the September 1934 issue of the Canadian Mining Journal in the special section they are publishing of "Prominent Men of the Industry."

The Rhodesian Mining Journal in its August issue makes the statement that there is a revival in asbestos mining owing to the bigger demand for the raw material. The D. S. O. Asbestos Mine in the Mashaba area is said to have been reopened and is now producing. Other asbestos bearing claims, particularly those which have been partly developed before the slump are being inspected, so it is stated, for likely looking material.

The Mashaba Rhodesian Asbestos Company reports more activity in asbestos in that area, and increased demand for its product, according to the South African Mining and Engineering Journal.

Pacific Coast Asbestos Association will hold its annual meeting on November 1st and 2nd in San Francisco, Calif.

Articles recently appearing in the India Rubber Journal concerning Asbestos subjects are Cold Storage Plant in the September 1st issue; Asbestos in Band Saw Production in the September 8th issue; Asbestos Insulated Copper Wire, September 15th; Reclaiming Asbestos from Covered Wire, September 22nd.

ASBESTOS



D. R. Weedon

Keasbey & Mattison Company
A. S. Blagden, President of Keasbey & Mattison Company takes pleasure in announcing that D. R. Weedon has become associated with the Company as Assistant to the President.

Mr. Weedon for the past three years has been manager of the Russell Manufacturing Company, Middletown, Conn.

Samuel Turner, Chairman of Turner & Newall Limited of England, accompanied by C. S. Bell, a director of the same Company, has been in America for the past three weeks, looking over the Keasbey & Mattison properties in Canada and the United States, and visiting old friends. Mr. Turner and Mr. Bell sailed for England October 5th.

The Wayland Company of San Francisco, Calif., has, we understand, been merged with the Western Asbestos Mfg. Co. of the same city, under the latter name. Both companies are contractors and distributors of asbestos products.

Mashaba Rhodesian Asbestos Company Limited. The affairs of this Company have recently come into the limelight. At a recent meeting of this Company held in London (July 28th) it was stated that their present production of Rhodesian asbestos "of good quality" was 100 tons increasing by January next to 200 tons per month, with an existing plant of a capacity of 300 tons. Moreover the Chairman stated that a portion of the present output of 100 tons monthly had been disposed of, sufficient to cover the whole of the present working expenses in Rhodesia, leaving a satisfactory monthly tonnage to meet the demands of their agents in other parts of the world. Colonel R. Bruce Hay, D. S. O. is the Chairman of the Company and the registered address is 10 Broad Street Avenue, London, E. C. 2.

Johns-Manville Corporation. John H. McManus, Special Representative of Johns-Manville for the Utility Industry, died on Saturday, October 6th, at the Stamford Hospital, Stamford Conn.

Mr. McManus completed twenty-five years of service with Johns-Manville on July 19, 1934, at which time the officials of the company presented him with a gold watch. He was well known in the Utility Industry, handling J. M. electrical products, and his passing is greatly regretted by all his associates in Johns-Manville and his many friends and acquaintances in the Utility Industry.

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PATENTS

Asbestos Board. No. 1,971,162. Granted on August 21st to Izador J. Novak, Bridgeport, Conn., assignor to Raybestos-Manhattan, Inc., Bridgeport, Conn., Application February 17, 1932. Serial No. 593,691.

Described as a folded asbestos sheet having paper-machine characteristics, containing a sizing material absorbed on the fibres and substantially insoluble in water of pH 8-10.

Friction Element—No. 1,971,163. Granted on August 21st to Izador J. Novak, Bridgeport, Conn., assignor to Raybestos-Manhattan, Inc., Bridgeport, Conn. Application May 2, 1932. Serial No. 608,871.

Described as in the manufacture of friction element wherein an asbestos base is saturated with a saturant comprising drying oil and cured, the improvement which comprises extracting free fatty acids and magnesium soaps by subjecting said base to the action of a solvent capable of removing such fatty acids and magnesium soaps.

Recovery of Magnesium Hydroxide. No. 1,971,909. Granted on August 28th to Harold W. Greider, Plymouth Meeting, Pa., assignor to Philip Carey Mfg. Co. Application April 7, 1930. Serial No. 422,448.

Described as in combination with a process of making basic Magnesium Carbonate wherein magnesium hydroxide in water suspension is treated with carbon dioxide to form a solution of magnesium bi-carbonate, said solution of magnesium bi-carbonate is heated to precipitate basic magnesium carbonate and the precipitate is separated from tailings liquor the steps comprising incorporating in the tailings liquor sodium hydroxide to precipitate magnesium hydroxide therefrom and separating from the excess mother liquor precipitated magnesium hydroxide.

Tapered Shingle and process of making same. No. 1,972,127. Granted on September 4th to Paul O. Beeson, Joliet, Ill., assignor to the Ruberoid Co., New York. Application June 5, 1931. Serial No. 542,296.

Described as the process of making a tapered, laminated fibre-cement product which comprises picking up pulpy fibre-cement material on a cylinder roll and depositing the material in a continuous imperforate web on a moving blanket, picking up like pulpy fibre-cement material on a second cylinder roll having portions only capable of picking up the material which portions are of uniformly varying width, breadthwise of the web, depositing said portions of varying width in regular order on the web and winding said web with the deposited portions on a cumulator roll to form laminations in which the deposited portions of varying width fall in different positions relatively to one another.

Pressure Mold. No. 1,972,440. Granted on September 4th to Richard J. Evans of Huntington, Ind., assignor to Asbestos Mfg. Co., Huntington, Ind. Application November 28, 1932.

ASBESTOS

Serial No. 644,739.

Described as a method comprising a base portion, a body portion mounted on the base portion in spaced relation thereto, a mesh material disposed in the space between the base portion and the body portion, said body portion comprising an outer frame and an inner core block having a wall spaced from the inner wall and the outer frame to provide a mold cavity therebetween said base portion having fluid vent openings leading to the mesh material and disposed beneath the core block adjacent the transverse center of the mold cavity and spaced from the cavity a distance substantially equal to the thickness of the outer frame.

Insulation Material. No. 1,972,500. Granted on September 4th to Edward A. Toohey, Somerville, and Earle R. Williams, North Plainfield, N. J., assignors to Johns-Manville Corporation, New York. Application September 26, 1931. Serial No. 565,398.

Described as a thermal insulating article comprising lightweight, permeable corrugated paper including asbestos fibres, a binding agent adapted to absorb moisture and a water repellent agent.

Power Driven Pipe Wrapping and Coating Machine. No. 1,973,505. Granted on September 11th to Eugene L. Rolfs, Dallas, and Charles W. Fuller, Houston, Texas, assignors to Johns-Manville Corporation, New York City. Application January 13, 1930. Serial No. 20,403.

Described as in a pipe wrapping machine, a support, a gear ring rotatable thereon, arms on said gear ring, a plurality of rollers on said arms, means to feed a web of wrapping material to said rollers, means in the path of travel of said rollers to cut both sides of said web and means to traverse said support and pipe relative to each other.

Structure Such as Tank Roofs. No. 1,974,314. Granted on September 18th, to Elmer R. Schaeffer, Crestwood, N. Y., assignor to Philip Carey Mfg. Co., Cincinnati, O. Application February 25, 1930. Serial No. 431,103.

Described as a structure having a wall and a roof, a roofing composed of a plurality of layers of flexible roofing material separated by a layer of heat insulating material, said wall being free to move with respect to said roofing material and means coacting with said roofing material and wall to form a vapor tight seal between the said roofing material and the wall.

Lightning Protection for Storage Tanks. No. 1,974,315. Granted on September 18th to Elmer R. Schaeffer, Crestwood, N. Y., assignor to Philip Carey Mfg. Co., Cincinnati, O. Application March 6, 1930. Serial No. 433,597. Description upon request.

Gasket. No. 1,974,633. Granted on September 25th to Benjamin J. Victor, Oak Park, Ill., assignor to Victor Mfg. & Gasket Company, Chicago. Application July 23, 1930. Serial No. 470,058. Description upon request.

ASBESTOS

THIS AND THAT

"A living room floor may be protected by putting good *insulting* material on the furnace pipes and jacket" says the Yonkers, N. Y. Herald Statesman. Just so, whatever that means!

"Marine experts say two developments are likely to come out of the inquiry into the cause of the Morro Castle tragedy. First, lightweight fire resisting superstructures to replace wood now used; second, a change back to coal in the bunkers instead of oil burning boilers." The first change is likely to give someone in the asbestos industry more business. Will that someone be you?

The best way out of a difficulty is THRU IT.

And speaking of the use of asbestos material to keep heat from the interior of your motor car (see article on page 8) we are told that an automobile accelerator pedal has been invented which insulates the accelerator against heat and keeps the driver's foot cool on the warmest day. It is covered by a pneumatic cushion beneath which is an asbestos shield.

Someone suggests that passenger ships be compelled to provide an asbestos suit for every passenger on board or at least for the ship's crew, so that rescue work might be carried on without danger of the crew being roasted alive.

Of course if the suits weren't used any more efficiently than the life boats — —! But at least the several suggestions for the fireproofing of ships we have read since the Morro Castle disaster, show that the public really does begin to appreciate the value of asbestos for fireproofing purposes.

Do you think it right to buy a car on the installment plan?

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*By me men live and die—survive or fall—succeed
or fail.*

*I prosper the man with a smile—knock down the
man with the frown.*

*I uplift the man who co-operates—and pull down
the man who unfairly competes.*

*I fatten the bank account of the man who deals
squarely and hang the red flag of failure be-
fore the door of him who cheats.*

*I make successful the man who helps his neighbor
and festoon with cobwebs the windows of him
who practices civic selfishness.*

*I fill the coffers of him who lives not for himself
alone and foreclose the mortgage of him who
says, "There is nothing in it for me."*

*I am author of everything, "They say," and my
word is law.*

I AM PUBLIC OPINION

